

MINUTES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF YORK

Adjourned Meeting
February 15, 2003

8:00 a.m.

Meeting Convened. An Adjourned Meeting of the York County Board of Supervisors was called to order at 8:12 a.m., Saturday, February 15, 2003, in the Confederation Room, Ramada Inn 1776, by Chairman James S. Burgett.

Attendance. The following members of the Board of Supervisors were present: Sheila S. Noll, James S. Burgett, and Thomas G. Shepperd.

Also in attendance were James O. McReynolds, County Administrator; and James E. Barnett, County Attorney.

RETREAT SESSION

2003 CALENDAR

The Board of Supervisors members were provided with a listing of pending Zoning Ordinance Text Amendments, and were asked to review the list for possible work session meeting dates.

Mrs. Noll stated she did not see Route 17 on the list.

Mr. McReynolds stated that issue would come under the Board's discussions on economic development.

Mr. J. Mark Carter, Assistant County Administrator, noted that VDOT was about to start the scoping for the widening project, and staff will need to come back to the Board with some information in terms of the widening.

Discussion followed on sidewalks from Route 17 interconnecting subdivisions.

Mr. Wiggins arrived at 8:20 a.m.

Mr. Carter then indicated that some of the issues were time sensitive. He stated the State has issued a reprieve on the deadline dealing with the Chesapeake Bay regulations, and the County now has until December 1. Staff recommends that the process keep moving, and a draft is circulating that will be sent to the Board as soon as the Planning Commission has reviewed it.

Chairman Burgett asked if the County was operating under the old regulations or the new ones.

Mr. Carter noted that the County's current regulations don't need to change much because it has been doing things pretty much the way the State wants them done. He then reviewed the issues outlined on the handout, beginning with Flood Hazard Management Overlay. He stated the amendments were very minor, and it would be good to adopt them as soon as possible to

allow the County to participate in the CRS program for reduction to flood insurance premiums to the citizens.

Mr. Shepperd asked if any of these flood hazards or Chesapeake Bay regulations address regulations for drainage.

Mr. Carter indicated they did not.

Mr. Shepperd stated drainage will be a major issue that the Board may wish to address.

Mr. McReynolds indicated the Phase II regulations won't require the County to take over any of the ponds. The regulations are still being developed, and it is unclear where they will lead at this time.

Mr. Wiggins stated the County was way ahead any of the other areas in terms of stormwater management. One of the requirements will be that the locality have a committee that goes out to inform the public on what they should be doing and looking for, and York County already has this committee in place. He stated York County doesn't have the industrial development that requires a lot of treatment.

Discussion followed on the responsibility of the homeowners associations for BMPs.

Mr. Carter noted that the issue of accessory apartments would be on the Board's March 4 Regular Meeting agenda. He then addressed the Yorktown architectural guidelines, stating the draft has cleared the Planning Commission, and staff recommends that the Board conduct a work session before taking up the issue for action.

Mr. Wiggins stated he felt the Board needed to address this issue as soon as possible.

Mr. McReynolds suggested that the Board consider having some 5:30 p.m. work sessions prior to the regular meetings.

By consensus, the Board scheduled the following meetings:

March 4	5:30 p.m.	Architectural Guidelines
May 6	5:30 p.m.	(Tentative) Parking, Signs, Landscaping
May 13	6:00 p.m.	Senior Housing
June 10	6:00 p.m.	Route 17 Beautification

Mr. Zaremba arrived at 8:43 a.m.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Board reviewed the mission statement, and no changes were made.

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Mr. James W. Noel, Jr., Director of Economic Development, reviewed with the Board members a handout depicting the major business announcements that have been made in York County since 2000.

Discussion followed on County government using local York County business services wherever possible. Discussion also ensued concerning development at Victory Industrial Park.

Mr. Noel stated that without an office park in the County, the County will continue to struggle for the larger white collar industries.

Mrs. Noll asked if there was any movement on the golf course.

Mr. Noel explained the problems being encountered with finalizing the lease. He stated he felt the negotiations were over the worst hurdles, and he was in constant contact with the attorneys handling it.

Chairman Burgett stated the County needs an office park in the southern end of the County.

Mr. Noel explained the problem is that there isn't much land for such a purpose in the southern end. Kiln Creek is played out. The property staff continues to wrestle with is the Keener/Cupp/Berrane tract.

Mrs. Noll asked what the possibility was of purchasing the salvage yards on Route 17.

Mr. Noel stated some of the owners want other sites before they would agree to sell and move, but there is no where in the County to move. He stated the owners also don't want to acknowledge there will also be environmental costs. He then discussed the proposed Route 17 corridor and a targeted commercial property redevelopment program for individual parcels or areas where there are vacant, deteriorating commercial structures. He noted examples of this include Heritage Square Shopping Center and the corner of Oriana Road and Route 17. He reviewed three suggested alternative plans of action:

- ? Offer low interest loans or grants funded through the economic development funds for approved redevelopment projects. Program elements could include design assistance,, façade improvement, sign assistance, or general property improvement.

and/or

- ? Acquire selected properties, demolish structures, landscape the lots, and selectively market the property.

and/or

- ? Negotiate a redevelopment plan with selected property owners through a public/private partnership.

Mrs. Noll suggested that a meeting be held with the Route 17 property owners to let them know what the Board and staff are thinking about and having them share in it.

Mr. Noel expressed his agreement about getting input from the private sector. He suggested that the County supplant the technology zone with one of the listed recommendations doing a public/private partnership. He stated the problem that will be encountered is that it goes

against natural market forces. He stated the Board might want to think about changing the technology zone effort to some type of redevelopment effort on Route 17.

Chairman Burgett agreed it was time to come up with some plan, stating the technology zone isn't going to work for York County. He stated he felt Mr. Noel's proposal answers some of the questions the Board gets phone calls about, and it fits in with improving the County's tax base.

Discussion followed on the proposals as set forth by Mr. Noel.

Mr. Zaremba suggested that the Industrial Development Authority be tasked with reviewing the issue, identify segments or parts of a program, set priorities, and come to the Board with a proposal for it to consider. He also suggested that a meeting be held with the property owners to see if there is any interest in a public/private partnership. Mr. Zaremba stated if the Board wants to get on with cleaning up these vacant sites, it won't cost a lot initially, but ultimately will cost a lot. If the Board likes the proposal developed by the IDA, it will set it in motion and go at whatever speed possible under budget constraints.

Discussion then took place concerning the communications portion of the Board's Goals and Objectives, and the County's relationship with the press.

Meeting Recessed. At 10:12 a.m., Chairman Burgett declared a short recess.

Meeting Reconvened. At 10:22 a.m. the meeting was reconvened in open session by order of the Chair.

The Board then continued its review of its Goals and Objectives, addressing Goal 3 regarding customer service and the staff's continuing efforts to provide the highest quality of customer service to the citizens of York County. They discussed the results of the last survey as well as possible timeframes for a new survey to be conducted.

Mr. Wiggins stated he felt the County was strong with its Boards and Commissions and its volunteers, but indicated he had read a recent article concerning payment to these members of the County's boards and commissions, and asked if there were any inequities in these payments.

Chairman Burgett stated the Board needed to look at the matter and discuss it further.

Mrs. Noll stated York County is very fortunate with its volunteers, noting other jurisdictions have many problems getting individuals to volunteer. He indicated the County has a recognition program for its volunteers which is why the County is fortunate to have so many volunteers.

The Board members then addressed Goal 4 concerning educational opportunities, indicating they felt the County provided adequate funding for the school division. Discussion took place concerning possible future reductions in Federal Impact Aid.

Discussion on Goal 5 concerning the provision of services to the citizens while balancing increases in expenditures with the expansion of the tax base indicated the Board members felt the Board had been historically very prudent in its fiscal responsibilities.

RULES OF PROCEDURE

Chairman Burgett discussed the Matters Presented by the Board portion of the Regular Board Meetings, stating that sometimes it went on for an hour or more. He suggested that the Board members voluntarily agree to limit their individual speaking time during this period of the meeting to 6 minutes so that the total Matters portion only takes approximately 30 minutes.

Mr. Wiggins stated he did not have a problem with Chairman Burgett's proposal as long as there was no intention to limit the content. He stated he felt 6 minutes was very reasonable.

Mrs. Noll expressed her agreement.

Mr. Wiggins also noted that if a Board member continues speaking longer than 6 minutes, he did not feel the Chair should cut the member off. He should have a private conversation with the member afterwards.

By consensus the Board agreed to a voluntary time limit of 6 minutes for each to speak during Matters Presented by the Board.

Mrs. Noll requested that when a Board member plans to bring up a controversial issue during Matters the member let the other Board members know about it ahead of time. She stated if all the Board members do their homework on the agenda, most of these issues would be addressed and the problem found prior to the actual meeting. She also asked that if an issue is to be removed from the agenda that it be done by Monday so that adequate notification can be made to all the Board members. Mrs. Noll also asked that the Board members agree to keep their comments during Matters from being campaign-based.

Chairman Burgett also noted that the Board members needed to remember that their individual comments do not necessarily represent the feelings of the entire Board.

Mr. Wiggins noted that the County Attorney's comments are sometimes quite long, and he asked that the Board consider requesting him to streamline his remarks.

Chairman Burgett indicated he would speak with Mr. Barnett.

Mr. Shepperd asked Mr. Burgett to ask Mr. Barnett to put his remarks in language that everyone can understand.

Mrs. Noll stated she felt the staff should be asked to streamline their presentations as well.

Discussion followed concerning differences in the County's districts and the issues impacting each of them.

Mr. Zaremba suggested the implementation of a once-a-month lunch date among the Board members, two at a time, to discuss some of the issues affecting their respective districts.

Mrs. Noll suggested the Board meeting once a month before a work session for dinner to share what is going on in the five districts.

Meeting Adjourned. At 12:18 p.m. Chairman Burgett declared the meeting adjourned sine die.

James O. McReynolds, Clerk
York County Board of Supervisors

James S. Burgett, Chairman
York County Board of Supervisors